

EMILY M. J. COOLEY.

APRIL 26, 1904.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. CALDERHEAD, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany S. 1576.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1576) granting an increase of pension to Emily M. J. Cooley, have examined the same and adopt the Senate report thereon and recommend that the bill do pass.

[Senate Report No. 2385, Fifty-eighth Congress, second session.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1576) granting an increase of pension to Emily M. J. Cooley, have examined the same and report:

This bill proposes to increase from \$8 to \$12 per month the pension of Emily M. J. Cooley, widow of Rufus Cooley, late of Company F, Thirty-ninth Regiment, and chaplain, Forty-seventh Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry.

Claimant is now receiving the pension of \$8 per month provided by the act of June 27, 1890. This was allowed her in June, 1897, to date from April 6, 1894. She also made claim at the Bureau under the general law May 31, 1900, which was rejected May 22, 1901, on the ground of her inability to prove that her husband's death was the result of his military service.

Soldier first served as private and sergeant in Company F, Thirty-ninth Wisconsin Infantry, from May 14, 1864, to September 22, 1864, and again as chaplain Forty-seventh Wisconsin Infantry, from March 26, 1865, to September 4, 1865. He died March 18, 1894, the cause of his death being disease of heart. At the time of his death he was a pensioner under the act of June 27, 1890, at the rate of \$12 per month. He never filed a claim under the general law.

The suggestion is contained in the papers that soldier's fatal disease resulted from a sickness contracted near Memphis, Tenn., in the summer of 1864, while he was a member of Company F, Thirty-ninth Wisconsin Infantry. This, however, is not proved, the evidence on file indicating that his death cause originated long after the close of the war.

Claimant is a war widow, having been married to the soldier December 25, 1854. She is 72 years of age, and the evidence filed with your committee shows her to be in feeble health and physically disabled for work and with no relatives to depend on

for her support. That she is poor is evidenced by the fact that she is pensioned under the act of June 27, 1890. In view of her advanced age and destitution your committee recommend an increase of her pension to \$12 per month, which is the rate she would have received had she been able to establish her claim under the general law.

The bill is therefore reported back favorably with a recommendation that it pass.

O